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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS

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EXAMINER

KUMAR, SRILAKSHMI K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2675

17

DATE MAILED: 06/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/738,647

Applicant(s)

VAN GESTEL ET AL.

Examiner

Srilakshmi K. Kumar

Art Unit

2675

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 September 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-6 and 8-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-6 and 8-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

The following office action is in response to Amendment D, filed September 26, 2003. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-16 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 6, 8-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shojima et al (US 5,592,565).

As to independent claims 1 and 9, Shojima et al disclose an apparatus for reproducing handwritten input, comprising; an input device for inputting a plurality of handwritten characters (col. 3, lines 22-48), a recognition unit for recognizing a plurality of handwritten characters (col. 3, lines 22-48, col. 2, lines 5-10), a selection unit for selecting a display font from among a plurality of fonts (col. 3, lines 36-48), and a display unit (col. 3, lines 45-47) for displaying one or more display characters corresponding to respective ones of the recognized handwritten characters, using the display font (col. 3, lines 45-47), wherein the selection unit selects the display font based on a comparison of one or more of the plurality of handwritten characters with one or more corresponding characters in each of the plurality of fonts (col. 3, lines 22-48), characterized in that the selection unit is arranged to select the font on the basis of the one or more handwritten characters (col. 3, lines 37-48).

Shojima et al do not disclose inputting a plurality of handwritten characters where the recognition unit recognizes a plurality of handwritten characters. Shojima et al disclose where one character is input at a time and is recognized before going to the next character. It would have been obvious that a plurality of handwritten characters can be input into Shojima et al and would be recognized. The selection unit of Shojima et al selects the font based on the comparison of one or more of the plurality of handwritten characters (col. 3, lines 22-48).

As to independent claims 6 and 8, limitations of claim 1, and further comprising, Shojima et al disclose a system for transmission of handwritten input comprising, a transmitter that includes; an input device for inputting a plurality handwritten characters (col. 3, line 53-col. 4, line 24), a recognition unit for recognizing the plurality handwritten characters and representing them as one or more respective character codes (col. 3, lines 22-48, col. 2, lines 5-10), a selection unit for selecting a select font from a plurality of predefined fonts, based on a comparison of one or more characters of the handwritten characters with one or more corresponding characters in each of the plurality of fonts (col. 3, lines 22-48), and transmission means for transmitting the one or more characters codes and a font identification of the selected font to a transmission medium (col. 3, lines 22-48), and a receiver (col. 3, lines 22-48) that includes, receiving means for receiving the one or more character codes and the font identification from the transmission medium (col. 2, lines 22-48) and a display unit (col. 3, lines 45-47) for on a display device in the selected font displaying one or more display characters corresponding to respective ones of the character codes, characterized in that the selection unit is arranged to select the font on the basis of the one or more handwritten characters (col. 5, line30-

col. 6, line 9, 37-56) using a display font corresponding to the font identification of the select font (col. 3, lines 22-48).

Shojima et al do not disclose inputting a plurality of handwritten characters where the recognition unit recognizes a plurality of handwritten characters. Shojima et al disclose where one character is input at a time and is recognized before going to the next character. It would have been obvious that a plurality of handwritten characters can be input into Shojima et al and would be recognized. The selection unit of Shojima et al selects the font based on the comparison of one or more of the plurality of handwritten characters (col. 3, lines 22-48).

As to dependent claim 10, limitations of claim 9, further comprising, wherein the font is selected when a predetermined number of characters have been recognized (col. 4, lines 25-35).

As to dependent claim 11, limitations of claim 9, further comprising, a computer program (col. 3, lines 22-35)

As to dependent claim 12, limitations of claim 11, further comprising, a tangible medium carrying the computer program (col. 3, lines 22-35).

3. Claims 3-5 and 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shojima et al as applied to claims 1, 6, 8 and 9 above, and further in view of Cok (US 6,298,154).

As to dependent claims 3, 13-16, limitations of claims 1, 6, 8 and 9, further comprising, a creation unit for creating a new font on the basis of the plurality of hand written characters, and the creation unit is arranged to create the font on the basis of averaging character characteristics over a number of handwritten characters. Shojima et al do not disclose a creation unit. Cok discloses a creation unit in Figs. 4-6, col. 4, lines 53-col. 5, lines 10. It would have been obvious

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to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the creation unit of Cok into that of Shojima et al as Shojima et al disclose a personal font directory which can be used to store personal fonts. This personal directory of Shojima et al with the creation unit is advantageous as it allows the user to create and utilize a unique font based on certain handwritten characteristics.

As to dependent claim 4, limitations of claim 1, further comprising, comprising a segmentation unit for segmenting the inputted handwritten characters into one or more words ((col. 2, lines 11-30, 56-61), and a spell check unit for verifying the presence of the one or more words in an electronic dictionary. Shojima et al and Cok do not disclose a spell check unit. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have a spell check unit. It is known in the art that most computer systems with an operating system and word processing have spell check features as it is advantageous for users writing important reports/documents etc.

As to dependent claim 5, see limitations of claims 1, 6, 8 and 9, above.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed September 26, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With regards to applicant's arguments on page 3 of Remarks filed September 26, 2003, Applicant argues where Shojima et al do not select a display font based on a comparison of handwritten characters with characters in each of a plurality of fonts. Examiner, respectfully, disagrees. Shojima et al in the abstract, disclose a handwritten character recognition apparatus with a personal dictionary preparation function that has a character recognition unit for comparing an input handwritten character with a standard font directory to recognize similar character pattern and a display unit for selecting and displaying a display font corresponding to

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the recognized character. Shojima et al disclose in col. 4, lines 25-26, where a recognition step is carried out by a pattern matching method. This clearly shows the limitations set forth by the Applicant's application.

Applicant argues in the response where the font is one of a plurality of standard fonts available such as Casual, Hyena, and Comic sans MS. Applicant discloses in the claim limitations "display font" which is broadly interpreted to mean any font that can be displayed on a display. The prior art Shojima discloses standard fonts which can be interpreted to mean any one of Casual, Hyena, and Comic sans MS as these are standard fonts as disclosed by the applicant.

Shojima et al fail to disclose a creation unit. Cok discloses a creation unit in Figs. 4-6, col. 4, lines 53-col. 5, lines 10. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the creation unit of Cok into that of Shojima et al as Shojima et al disclose a personal font directory which can be used to store personal fonts. This personal directory of Shojima et al with the creation unit is advantageous as it allows the user to create and utilize a unique font based on certain handwritten characteristics.

The combination of Shojima et al and Cok disclose each limitation as is set forth by the applicant's application.

The rejection above is maintained and made final.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Srilakshmi K. Kumar whose telephone number is 703 306 5575. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, xxxx xxxx can be reached on xxx xxx xxxx. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9306 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 305 4700.

Srilakshmi K. Kumar
Examiner
Art Unit 2675

SKK
May 31, 2004


DENNIS-DOON CHOW
PRIMARY EXAMINER